

SATURDAY June 06, 2015

Aruba **NUMBER 1** amongst **Top 10 nominated**

by "Airport Business Magazine"



Aruba number 1 amongst Top 10 nominated by
"Airport Business Magazine"
Airport of Aruba named as most innovative in the world

AS an active member of ACI Airport Council International, the magazine "Airport Business" published their list of the Top 10 most innovative airports in the world, in terms of innovation. The magazine takes into consideration that we are now in the month of June, making this nomination the better of the first part of 2015. Aruba is nominated as the number one on the list of the top 10 airports worldwide.

As the slogan, "Every flight begins at the airport", refers to the importance and the crucial role that every airport has in the Aviation Industry.

As we enter June, we near the end of the first half of the year rich in inventions and creativity, as gateways the worlds over unveil pioneering projects designed to help travelers make the most of their time at the airport and improve the overall passenger experience.

The publication of the list is to mark the 10 most innovative and creative airports in the first six months of the year

Cork Airport in Ireland is nominated as number 10 for its launching of the first flight tracking service that provides real-time flight tracking via its airport app. In ninth place is Finland's Helsinki Airport, followed by Tiger air Australia in eight and Malaysia's Air Asia in seventh, Helsinki Airport took sixth place as well, with another project – the introduction of special cabins where passengers can sleep and rest while waiting for their flights. In fifth place is Aero ports de Paris, followed by the Abu Dhabi Airport, third place went to Madrid, Spain's Iberia airport and in second place is Schiphol in the Netherlands, for launching their "airport security checkpoint", considered the most efficient with the best passenger experience. They even look at security as a service. Last year Schiphol handled no less than 55 million passengers.

Nominated as number one, top on the list Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix in Aruba. Especially for the introduction of first of its kind Aruba Happy Flow project – in which biometrics are used as the key identifier at all airport checkpoints. The pilot project will see facial recognition technology used to identify passengers at check-in, bag drop, border control and aircraft boarding. Once the passenger's passport and facial image have been linked at the initial check-in stage, they will not have to show their passport or boarding pass again before boarding.

The Happy Flow system links immigration services to the airline and the airport, and through the use

of "biometrics" facilitates the preclearance service. This is an innovative and unique project which was implemented first on Aruba and depending on the results in the future will be implemented as well at Schiphol in the Netherlands and other international airports.

The project Happy Flow is much more than just an automatic boarder control; it is a unique project where amongst others the public and private passenger processes are combined.

With the implementation of this innovative project as preclearance for Europe makes Aruba a hub, a bridge between Europe and the Americas.

Aruba Happy Flow is a collaboration of Teamwork. Words are not enough to express the appreciation for the efforts and support of the Aruban Government, The Dutch Government, Schiphol Group and most of all for the continuous support of KLM.

Jos Nijhuis CEO and President of Schiphol Group, which manages Aruba Airport, commented "With Aruba Happy Flow, together we have made an innovative step to further improve the comfort for the passenger." I have high expectations for the results of this pilot project which will have duration of two years. He said that if the

experience and tests prove positive, Schiphol and Aruba will continue with the project.

For more information and complete coverage of this special mention, visit <http://goo.gl/XbweJV>.

Aruba Airport Authority N.V., working in close relationship with Schiphol Group, manages a modern and efficient airport, with three different buildings that together form the terminal. We are one of the few countries in the world that have U.S. C.B.P presence, being U.S. Immigration and Customs services, to facilitate passengers and "pre-clear" flights before they arrive in the U.S.A.

In 2014, Aruba airport handled over 2.5 million passengers, which translates into a growth of over 10% compared to the previous year. Aruba Airport Authority N.V. forecasts show this growth will continue throughout this year, in the number of flights handled as well as the number of passengers coming through the terminal.



IN DOLLARS

InselAir Aruba **Does not** sell tickets in Venezuela in bolivar fuerte any more

FREDERICK Nuboer, CEO of InselAir Aruba announced that InselAir Aruba will no longer sell tickets in Venezuela in the bolivar fuerte but in dollars. This has not been an easy decision to take, and has even lost part of their market. We will keep monitoring the market by maintaining the same price.

There are rules that have been introduced by the Government of Venezuela upon the decision to sell tickets in dollars. The market has dropped to 30%, but an increase has been seen lately. InselAir will continue to observe the Venezuelan market, and more attention has been put on the Colombian market, and more routes will be open for that destination and also to Brazil.

These two will be an important feeder of flights of InselAir Aruba, following more north, for example Santo Domingo, Puerto Rico and Miami, which is still a market that is in demand. In all this, ATA is a strategic partner for InselAir Aruba, considering the high interest in more tourists from Brazil.



Fokker 70 Airplanes

the **RIGHT CHOICE** for this region

InselAir Aruba From 40 thousand now transports 200 thousands passengers to Aruba

TO confirm the importance of InselAir Aruba to our economy, we should know that since the year 2010, they are transporting about 40 thousands passengers to Aruba, but after a short period of time they reached the amount of 200 thousands passengers. This is in the Pan American region alone, according to the COO of InselAir Aruba, Lutico Hermans.

A considerable growth in transportation of passengers. However, there have still been critics that the tickets are too expensive. But according Lutico Hermans that depends also on the period when the tickets are purchased.

But if we compare with the 2002 rates until today, we can see that InselAir maintains very low rates. The rates of InselAir Aruba are very competitive, according to Lutico Hermans. Frederick Nuboer, CEO of InselAir

Aruba announced that they are very proud with the in-flux of InselAir has for the economy of Aruba. All the Fokker 70 aircrafts are registered in Aruba and InselAir Aruba is already in deliberations with the KLM to purchase more equipments, more Fokker 70 of 80 passengers.

The Fokker 70 is the best for the routes that InselAir is flying and is planning the fly, according to Frederick Nuboer. The CEO expects to receive 4 Fokker 70 aircrafts more. This makes it possible that more destinations will be flown to and the frequency will also increase. InselAir Aruba chose for the Fokker 70 because it is excellent for our region. It gives more flexibility to fly frequently on the same route.

Even though they have the MD, which is a big aircraft, but it depends on the route to

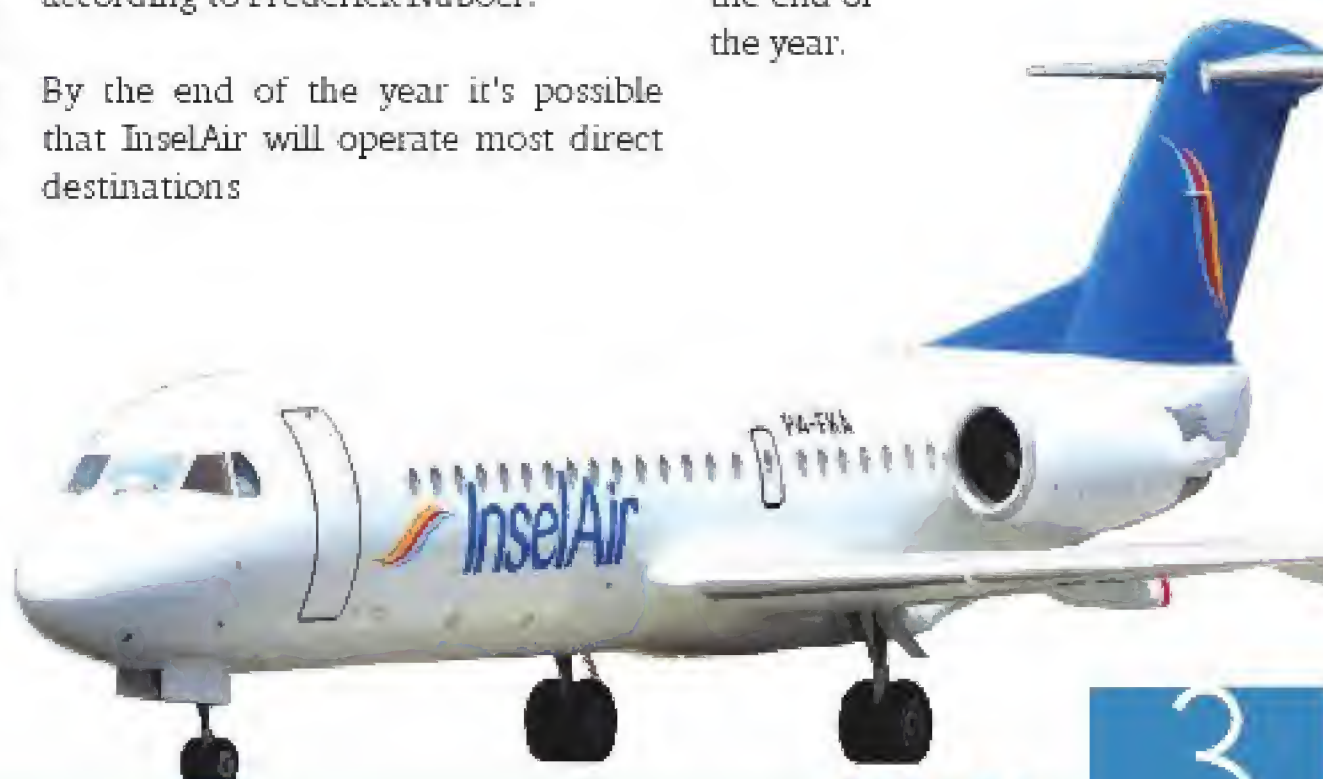
where it flies, the frequency can't be as high as the Fokker 70 can offer. Reason why the Fokker 70 is confirmed to be the best for this region.

InselAir Aruba is the leader in bringing more passengers to Aruba in direct flights; they have more seats available for scheduled and direct flights. InselAir Aruba is bigger than some American and even Dutch companies, according to Frederick Nuboer.

By the end of the year it's possible that InselAir will operate most direct destinations

from Aruba. This will have a big impact on the touristic industry.

According to the CEO of InselAir Aruba, 80% of the passengers that they bring to Aruba, stays in Aruba, and the other 20% will continue to another destination. Growth in passengers is expected at the end of the year.



Rotary Club of Aruba GIVES BACK to the Community

AFTER a very successful Rotary Festival 2015, it is now time to give 100% back to the community of Aruba.

The results of the Rotary Festival 2015 reach the big sum of Afl. 320,000. The Commission of Service to the Community of the Rotary Club Aruba did an evaluation of all the petitions that they received during the past months and sent a recommendation to the board and members of the Club. During a General Assemble of the Rotary Club of Aruba, the recommendations had been discussed and finally approved.

The Rotary Club Aruba invited many organizations in our community to a General Meeting last week at the Alhambra Ballroom. And a donation was given to each of them.

This year, the after carefully discussing all the petitions, has the Rotary Club Aruba chosen the following organizations:

The Aruba Girl's Scout, Let's Unite to Feed the Kids, Clown Doctors Aruba, Animal Rights Aruba, Aruba DeMolay Chapter No.1, Diabetes Support Project, Edmund Harms Foundation, Autism Foundation Aruba, Donkey Sanctuary Aruba, Funari, Foundation for the hearing impaired (FEPO), Center for the Elderly, Club Kibrahacha 60+, Guide Me Foundation, Women in Difficulty Foundation, Meals on Wheels/Aruba Methodist Church, Micky's Foundation, Scouting Aruba, Aruba Boot Camp Foundation, Social Funds Colegio Arubano, Scout Sonrisa Foundation and YMCA.

The Rotary Club Aruba is very satisfied to have been able to help all these organizations and they are convinced that this will help all these organizations to realize their project and goals on the benefit of our community.

The Rotary Club Aruba also invests the whole year on projects of the Re-creative Park that is managed by the Rotary Club Aruba.

Once again, The Rotary Club Aruba wants to extend their gratitude to all the members and their families and friends for the tremendous input. Special thanks go to all the volunteers, the sponsors, commerce of Aruba and the community of Aruba for their trust and support to The Rotary Club Aruba. You push us to continue to work towards the benefit of our community.



Clarification regarding the scarcity of florin circulation coins

THE Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) would like to inform the public that the production of the circulation coins of Afl. 1.00, Afl. 0.50, Afl. 0.25, Afl. 0.10 and Afl. 0.05 for the year 2015 has experienced a significant delay due to a shortage of raw materials for the production of these coins on the international market.

Consequently, the CBA does not currently have these coins in stock nor in the coming two months. Based on recent information obtained from the producer of these coins, the Royal Dutch Mint in the Netherlands, the CBA expects to receive these coins by the end of August 2015.

The CBA apologizes for any inconvenience this situation may have caused, and will inform the public as soon as these circulation coins are again available.

Centrale Bank van Aruba
June 5, 2015

Chamber of Commerce and
Industry Aruba

Trade Mission to CUBA



A **DELEGATION** of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Aruba and (KvK) will be going to Cuba tomorrow on a Trade Mission in cooperation with the Cuban Chamber of Commerce. This is a visit of six days, from the 7th - 12th of June 2015. The preparation of this visit initiated since the beginning of this year.

Chief of the delegation will be the KvK President, Mrs. Daphne Lejuez. InselAir, considering the importance of the latest developments of Cuba for their company, has scheduled a direct charter flight for this commercial mission while the regular flights of InselAir to Cuba will soon initiate. KvK convey their gratitude to Insel for making a direct flight possible for this mission.

AIM OF THE MISSION

The delegation consists of 26 local companies, represented by 34 persons and the representatives and staff of the KvK.

The objective of this visit is to learn how we can create synergy between the economy and commerce of the two countries. How can they do business together and where are the opportunities for both. To achieve this aim, the Chamber of Commerce of Aruba and the Chamber of Commerce of Cuba will sign an agreement as a bond to fortify and enhance the commercial cooperation between Aruba and Cuba.

The delegation will be in Cuba until next Friday the 12th of June and will be accommodated in Havana. During the mission, delegation members will get the opportunity to get valuable insights in possible business opportunities, possibilities the Cuba economy can offer and the Cuban way of doing business through the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, company visits and a balanced mission program.

Therefore also they have an appointment with the Cuban businessmen, and in the program there are activities for them to learn what Cuba has to offer.

The KvK also wishes the businessmen success during this week and surely upon their return, more information will be shared. This is only the beginning of a mutual cooperation between the two Commerce Chambers.

PAHO/WHO urges measles and rubella VACCINATION

for travelers to the 2015 Americas Cup



Pan American Health Organization



World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE **Americas**

The region of the Americas has eliminated rubella and is close to being declared free of measles. But continued circulation of both diseases in other regions presents a risk of imported cases, especially during mass international events.

Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) is urging travelers to the 2015 Americas Cup, scheduled for June 11 to July 4 in Chile, to ensure they are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, especially measles and rubella.

Intensified international travel and population movement associated with mass events increase the risk of imported cases of measles, rubella and other vaccine-preventable diseases. For this reason, PAHO/WHO is calling on travelers to make sure they are up to date on their vaccines and, if not, to get vaccinated against measles and rubella, ideally at least two weeks before traveling.

"Anyone over 6 months old who has not been vaccinated, or who does not remember if they were vaccinated, should get vaccinated against measles and rubella at least two weeks before traveling to the Americas Cup," said C. Ruiz, chief of PAHO/WHO's Comprehensive Family Immunization program.

DIABETES

Chronic Disease with much complications and serious consequences

DURING the Health Care Conference Aruba 2015, has the Medical Institute San Nicolas, ImSan presented Dr. Ana M. Viamonte Ros, Director of the Medical Staff of Development of the Baptist Health International. She elaborated on the chronic diseases but especially on Diabetes.

Diabetes is recognized worldly as a disease that provokes more sufferings than any other disease. This is something that troubles many leaders around the world. 80% of the population of the third world countries suffers of diabetes and the

mortality rate is very high. It is predicted that the costs of this disease will increase with a 143% in the next 20 years if no concrete measurements are taken to fight the root of this problem, which is obesity.

Countries need to begin to realize that there is a need to exceed the control of these chronic diseases that continue to increase. We can not only invert in the fight for the contagious diseases. The believe that the chronic diseases affects only those with high income is erroneous, because they also affect of less

A total of 54% of those affected are male and more

than 44% of death due to the consequences of diabetes is patients under 70 years of age.

There are about 22 million children with overweight or obese in the world. In Aruba it has been registered that the percentage of obesity is the highest of the Caribbean.

A total of 77% of our children does not do enough exercises. In Aruba 60% of women are obese. This is just an example why a 'Healthy Lifestyle' is so important.

For this reason it is very important for us in Aruba to change our health practices. We must include more fruits and vegetables in our daily food and make use of stairs, walk, sleep enough and eat less and balance an reduce the use of salt.

In 2011, Aruba organized the first conference on obesity (PACO):

Pan-American Conference on Obesity) and has signed an agreement (The Aruba

Declaration) during that conference. This manifesto contained advices on prevention of obesity and to identify specify interventions that can be applied in the Caribbean and Latin America.

The partnership between the Baptist Health South Florida and the Medical Institute San Nicolas, ImSan is very important to work together to establish a "Center of Excellence" to treat chronic diseases at ImSan, which will include the Departments of Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy, Eye Center, Surgery Rooms and the expansion of the existent departments like the Dialysis and the Diabetes Centers.

We must declare that this partnership has already given us benefits, raised the quality of service and reduced the costs of the medical equipments and medicine. With the support of the Baptist Health International we have reached the required level to obtain the 'JCI Accreditation'.





Mount Kinabalu **EARTHQUAKE:**

Guides aid stranded climbers
to descend

MALAYSIAN mountain guides are slowly helping 137 climbers who were stranded earlier at the top of southeast Asia's tallest peak by a powerful earthquake to descend to safety, a local official said Friday.

The paths down Mount Kinabalu, damaged by falling rocks, were treacherous as night was falling, said Masidi Manjun, the tourism minister for the Malaysian state of Sabah.

Ten people with injuries have already been taken off the mountain, Masidi was quoted as saying by Malaysia's official Bernama news agency.

He said 32 guides were carefully leading the remainder

down the mountain, adding that the groups would be taken to the Laban Rata rest house down the slopes, where food was being brought in.

Helicopters were having difficulty reaching the climbers on the mountain peak due to bad weather but were hoping to drop supplies and warm clothes, said Jamili Nais, Sabah Parks director.

Damage to the hospital at the quake's epicenter in the town of Ranau was also hampering rescue efforts, he added.

The magnitude-6.0 quake struck early Friday local time, damaging several buildings in Ranau -- the epicenter, the Bernama news agency said.

Videos and social media purportedly taken from the base of the mountain appeared to show large rock slides enveloping the peak after the tremor and people anxiously looking for shelter.

Masidi earlier said that the injured included two people whose arms were broken by falling rocks.

At 4,095 meters (13,435 feet) above sea level, Kinabalu is one of the highest mountains in Southeast Asia. The UNESCO-listed Mount Kinabalu National Park is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the state of Sabah, in Malaysian Borneo, with visitors forced to book two to three months in advance to secure one of 196 daily allocated hiking permits.



Malala Gunmen SECRETLY Set Free in Pakistan

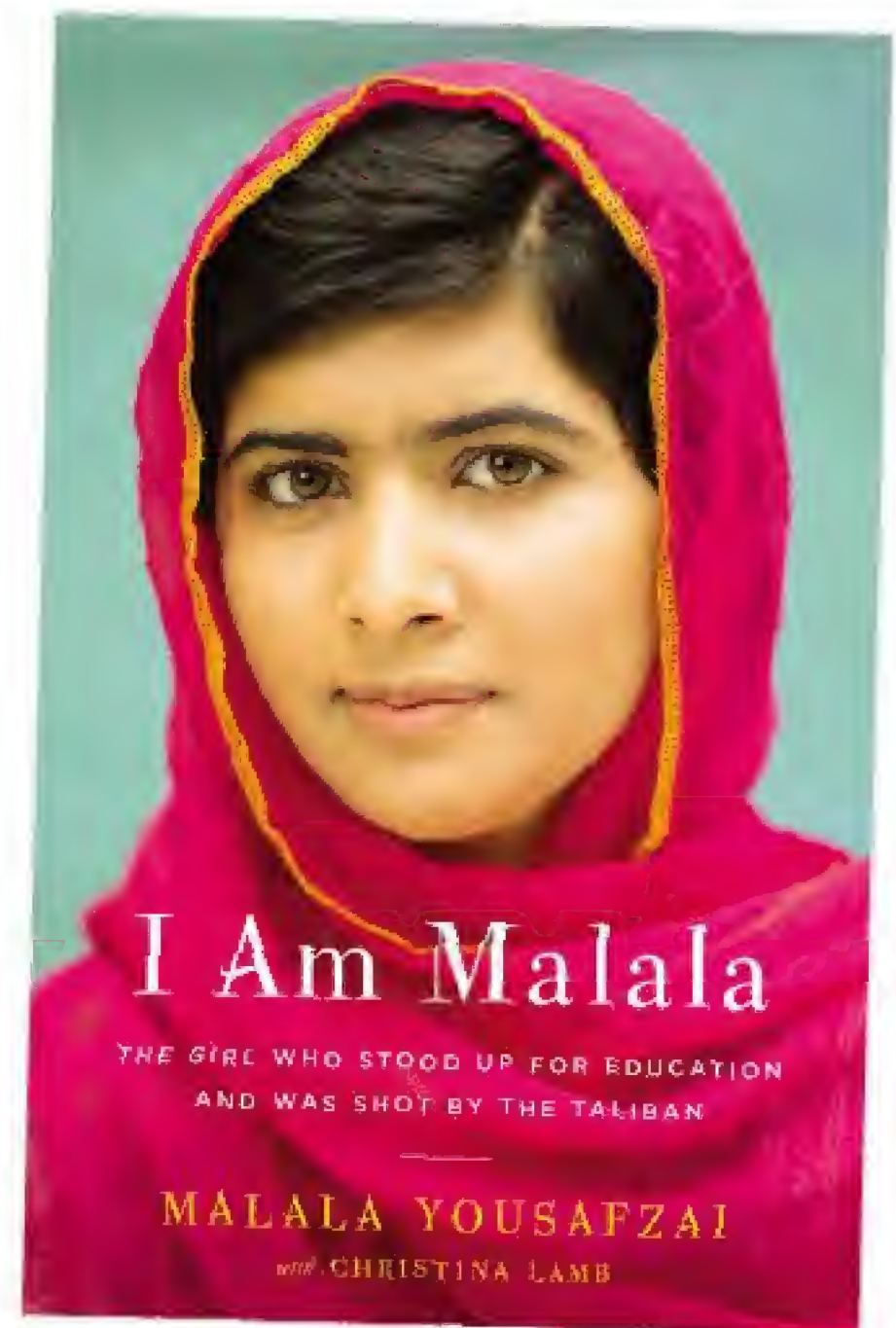
Previous reports had indicated all 10 were sentenced to life in prison

NEWS reports in April indicated that 10 men had been convicted and sentenced to life in prison in connection with the shooting of Malala Yousafzai in 2012. But now, it seems eight of those men were actually acquitted.

Several Pakistani officials confirmed that only two men had been sentenced, with one blaming misreporting for the confusion. But one public prosecutor had specifically told the Associated Press after the trial (which was held in secret),

"It is life in prison for the 10 militants who were tried by an anti-terrorist court."

The discrepancy emerged when reporters tried to locate all 10 men; the whereabouts of the eight who were acquitted are now unknown. Yousafzai was targeted by the Taliban at age 15 after becoming an advocate for girls' education. She and her family now live in the U.K. to escape death threats in their native Pakistan. She was awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.



Red Cross defends Haiti aid work

Amid expose it only built six houses

THE Red Cross has defended its work in Haiti following a devastating earthquake five years ago after a media investigation found it had only built six houses despite raising nearly half a billion dollars in donations.

ProPublica, an investigative journalism website, and U.S. radio network NPR confronted the American Red Cross this week with a report about the relief agency's use of donations to help the 1.5 million people displaced by January 2010 earthquake.

The report accused the Red Cross of wasting money through various failures and mismanagement, leaving families homeless and unable to survive, while relying too heavily on foreign workers who could not speak French or Creole. The Thomson Reuters Foundation also learned the Red Cross spent at least 17 percent of funds on expenses in Haiti, despite the U.S. group and international

federation stating 91 cents on each dollar goes to humanitarian programmes and services.

The American Red Cross dismissed the report as lacking in "balance, context and accuracy", saying its work in Haiti had made a difference in the lives of millions of Haitians.

"Despite the most challenging conditions, including changes in government, lack of land for housing, and civil unrest, our hardworking staff - 90 percent of whom are Haitians - continue to meet the long-term needs of the Haitian people," the non-government organisation said in a statement on its website.

"While the pace of progress is never as fast as we would like, Haiti is better off today than it was five years ago."

The 7.0-magnitude earthquake on Jan. 12, 2010, killed more than 220,000 people and was a wake-up call to the government and international aid

agencies about the dire need to protect Haitians from disasters and build resilience among communities.

The Red Cross said donations had helped build 8 hospitals and clinics, stem a cholera outbreak, provide clean water and sanitation, repair roads and schools, and move more than 100,000 people out of make-shift tents into housing.

But the investigation's discovery that only 6 permanent houses had been built in Haiti hit headlines and sparked outrage on social media about the lack of transparency and effectiveness of aid funds.

Questions Over Spending

The report, based on confidential emails from top officials and accounts, said the American Red Cross claimed it provided homes for more than 130,000 displaced people, but the actual number of permanent residences it

built was six.

Addressing the report, the Red Cross said it had used other methods to improve housing after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake.

"When land was not available for new homes, the Red Cross provided a range of housing solutions including rental subsidies, repairs and retrofitting of existing structures, fulfilling our promise to ensure tens of thousands of Haitians are back in homes," it said.

The American Red Cross declined to respond to any further questions from the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

While the American Red Cross reports 91 cents on every dollar goes to humanitarian programmes and services, the IFRC told the Thomson Reuters Foundation that when it runs a programme it levies an extra 6.5 percent plus in-country expenses to cover offices, telecoms and other operating costs.

'Star Trek' Star

Nichelle NICHOLS Suffers Stroke



NICHELLE Nichols, best known for her role as Lieutenant Uhura in TV's Star Trek, has suffered a stroke. "Last night while at her home in LA, Nichelle Nichols suffered from a mild stroke," her agent Zach McGinnis wrote on Facebook.

"She is currently undergoing testing to determine how severe the stroke was. Please keep her in your thoughts." The 82-year-old was handpicked by Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry to appear in the original 1960s TV series.

Her casting as fourth in command of the USS Enterprise broke many racial barriers, with Nichols becoming the first black woman to share a kiss with a white man (William Shatner) on US television in 1966.

Up until that point, African-American actresses had typically been cast in servile roles, playing housekeepers or maids. Fans of her Star Trek role reportedly included Dr Martin Luther King.

In an updated post on Facebook, McGinnis reported that Nichols was "awake, eating, in good spirits and able to have full conversations."

"Her right side has shown minor signs of mobility loss but she is not showing any signs of paralysis. "We greatly appreciate all of the love and support her fans are showing at this time."

Heroes role

The original Star Trek series ran for three years and continues to have a cult following. Nichols went on to star in several Star Trek films, between 1979 and 1991, including The Wrath of Khan and The Final Frontier.

Later in her career, she played the role of Nana Dawson in the 2006 TV show Heroes and made a guest appearance on Futurama alongside fellow Star Trek regular George Takei in 2002.

She remains a working actress, and reported last month on Facebook that she had begun filming a sequel to Surge of Power. She was scheduled to appear at New Jersey's Eternal Con - dubbed "the Long Island Comic Con" - on 13 and 14 June.

'FEMALE Viagra' gets green light from US expert panel

A US advisory panel on Thursday urged regulators to approve a drug nicknamed the "female Viagra" because it could help increase women's sex drive.

A US advisory panel urged regulators to approve a drug nicknamed the "female Viagra" because it could help increase women's sex drive.

If the US Food and Drug Administration gives flibanserin the go-ahead, it would be the first drug on the market to boost female libido. The FDA is not required to follow the advice of the panel, but it often does.

The experts voted 18-6 in favour of allowing the drug on the market, but with some additional risk-control measures to make sure doctors prescribe it only to patients who need it

and that women are aware of the risks. Flibanserin, which is aimed at premenopausal women, can have significant side effects including nausea, dizziness and sleepiness. "The treatment effects are numerically small," said doctor Christina Chang, speaking to the panelists on behalf of the FDA, asking the committee to weigh in on the evidence of benefits and risks in women studied.

Safety concerns include sleepiness, fainting, low blood pressure and the potential for hormonal contraceptives and alcohol use to make side effects worse, Chang said.

"I am one of the lucky 11,000 women that was a patient on the flibanserin clinical trial," said Amanda Parrish, who said she lost desire for sex with her husband, and their marriage had

suffered. "What a relationship-saving eight months that was. As if the light switch had been turned on, so was I."

REJECTED BEFORE

Two attempts at bringing the drug to market have already failed in 2010 and 2013, given what experts described as inconclusive advantages when compared to a placebo. After it was initially rejected by the FDA, flibanserin was sold by its developer, the German laboratory Boehringer Ingelheim, to a US firm called Sprout Pharmaceuticals. According to documents on the FDA website, women taking flibanserin reported on average 4.4 sexually satisfying encounters per month, compared to 3.7 in a placebo group and 2.7 before beginning the study.

"What I know is that flibanserin, taken each night worked for me, and worked

for my marriage," said Parrish. "For me the effects were not modest, but significant."

But the majority of the experts said the approval should provide an option for women who suffer from loss of interest in sex for the first time, as long as "certain risk management options beyond labeling" are instituted, such as doctor training and post-marketing studies.

The aphrodisiac properties of flibanserin were discovered accidentally when it was tested as an anti-depressant, the drug-maker said. Viagra's ability to cause an erection was discovered after it was tested as a heart medication. Other big drug companies have already thrown in the towel when it comes to developing a female version, including Pfizer and Procter and Gamble.

Turtle species may go EXTINCT

if its aged last female can't breed

BREED now, or see your kind die out with you. With extinctions raging at a maddening clip, more and more species face this alternative.

The Yangtze giant softshell turtle is the one of the latest, and scientists are going to desperate measures to help it reproduce. There is only one known female left in the world, and they recently artificially inseminated her.

But she's about 100 years old, and scientists are not sure she'll have children, the World Conservation Society said.

"The conservation world will once again be holding its collective breath until we know if this was successful," said zoo biologist Rick Hudson from Fort Worth, Texas. He joined a team of scientists who traveled to China to try to save the species, known scientifically as *Rafetus swinhoei*. They've failed before.

Electro-ejaculation

Keepers had previously already put the female together with a male in a Chinese zoo. He is one of the last three known males of the species. The two turtles looked like they were mating and she laid eggs. But they were nonviable and not fertilized.

A closer look at the male's genitals revealed they'd been damaged -- possibly in a fight with another male decades before. To get semen out of them, the scientists would have to go the extra mile. They used an electric current. At his age -- also about 100 years -- electro-ejaculation was a life-threatening prospect, but it worked.

Artificial insemination

Then the team injected the semen into the female, and eggs began to form. The scientists won't know if this batch is fertilized, until hatching time. The turtle is due to lay in a few weeks.

There may not be too many second chances. In the fall, zoo keepers will separate the female and take her back to her home zoo.

"We hope some children move together with her," said the zoo's Vice Director Yan Xiahui.

A few weeks after she lays, the team should know more about this species' fragile chance of survival or get closer to the certainty that when the last of these four turtles die, their entire species will vanish forever.

It's a repeat tragedy. When giant tortoise Lonesome George died three years ago on the Galapagos Island of Pinta at the age of 100, he took his species with him.

The northern white rhino in Kenya is in a similar bind, except that there is only one male left in its subspecies. So far, he has failed to produce offspring with his two female companions.

Some scientists believe we may be living in one of the greatest periods of extinction in the history of life on our planet.



Zuckerberg announces Facebook Lite app

People living in some of the most remote parts of the world will now be able to quickly post updates to their Facebook accounts.



MARK Zuckerberg announced the release of the Facebook Lite app on Thursday, which is designed to work fast even on slow mobile networks commonly found in developing nations. The app will first roll out in Asia, then in the subsequent weeks to Africa, Latin America and Europe. «We built Facebook Lite to be faster, more reliable and very data efficient even when internet bandwidth is at

a minimum.» Zuckerberg wrote in a Facebook (FB, Tech30) post. «The app is less than 1 MB in size and takes just a few seconds to download.»

Facebook didn't mention when the app would come to the U.S., but did say it would be available in the Google Play Store, according to the post. More than 1 billion people access Facebook on mobile devices globally, the company said.

PROSECUTOR:

Germanwings pilot contacted dozens of doctors

A STATE prosecutor says a co-pilot with a history of depression who crashed a Germanwings airliner into the French Alps had reached out to dozens of doctors ahead of the disaster. The revelation suggests Andreas Lubitz was seeking advice about an undisclosed ailment.

Marseille Prosecutor Brice Robin, in comments to The Associated Press, would not address the question of what symptoms Lubitz was assessing. Robin is leading a criminal investigation into the March 24 crash that killed all 150 people on board Germanwings Flight 9525. Investigators say Lubitz intentionally destroyed the plane.

Robin said he will discuss the investigation with victims' relatives in Paris next week and address efforts to reduce delays in handing over remains. The delays have frustrated some families. Robin told The Associated Press late Thursday that he is now receiving information from authorities abroad as he builds his investigation file, but for now "I have decided to prioritize the victims' families."

The March 24 crash of Germanwings flight 9525 in the French Alps killed all 150 people on board. Prosecutors in France and Germany believe co-pilot Andreas Lubitz intentionally crashed the Airbus 320. Prosecutors say Lubitz had been hiding psychological problems from his employer.



Royal baby Princess CHARLOTTE to be christened in July

PRINCESS

Charlotte, daughter of Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, will be christened on July 5, Kensington Palace said Friday.

The christening will take place at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Sandringham, Norfolk, conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, who is head of the Church of

England. Charlotte's great-grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, has her country retreat in Sandringham, about 180 kilometers (110 miles) north of London's Buckingham Palace, and the royal family has a long connection with the country church.

Prince William and Catherine also have a nearby country house, Anmer Hall, which affords them more privacy than

their official residence at Kensington Palace in London, which is constantly monitored by photographers.

The baby girl, whose full name is given on her birth certificate as Her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana of Cambridge, was born May 2 in London.

The christening of her brother, Prince George, who is third in line to the throne, was in the Chapel Royal at St.

James's Palace in October 2013.

He was dressed for the occasion in an elaborate lace and satin christening gown that's a replica of one made in 1841 for the christening of Queen Victoria's eldest daughter.

The replica was brought in to use in 2008 to help preserve the 170-year-old original, used until then for every royal christening, including those of Prince William and his father, Charles.



U.S. government HACKED;

feds think China is the culprit

FOUR million current and former federal employees, from nearly every government agency, might have had their personal information stolen by Chinese hackers, U.S. investigators said.

U.S. officials believe this could be the biggest breach ever of the government's computer networks. China called the allegation irresponsible. The Office of Personnel Management, which is conducting background checks, warned it was urging potential victims to monitor their financial statements and get new credit reports.

The breach was initially thought to have impacted the Office of Personnel Management and the Department of Interior, but government officials said nearly every federal government agency was hit by

the hackers.

An assessment continues, and it is possible millions more government employees may be affected.

U.S. investigators: We believe this was China's work

U.S. investigators believe they can trace the breach to the Chinese government. Hackers working for the Chinese military are believed to be compiling a massive database of Americans, intelligence officials told CNN on Thursday night.

It is not clear what the purpose of the database is.

The Washington Post and Wall Street Journal first reported Thursday that Chinese hackers were responsible for the breach.

A spokesman from the Chinese Embassy in Washington objected late Thursday to allegations that the Chinese

government may be behind the massive hack.

«Cyberattacks conducted across countries are hard to track, and therefore the source of attacks is difficult to identify. Jumping to conclusions and making hypothetical accusation is not responsible and counterproductive» said Zhu Haiquan.

EINSTEIN detection system

Employees of the legislative and judicial branches and uniformed military personnel were not affected.

There are 2.7 million federal executive branch employees. It's unclear whether this affected all of them, along with former employees, or only a portion

of them.

The federal personnel office learned of the data breach after it began to toughen its cybersecurity defense system. When it discovered malicious activity, authorities used a detection system called EINSTEIN to eventually unearth the information breach in April 2015, the Department of Homeland Security

said.

A month later, the federal agency learned sensitive data had been compromised.

The FBI is investigating what led to the breach.

"We take all potential threats to public and private sector systems seriously and will continue to investigate and hold accountable those who pose a threat in cyberspace," the FBI said in a statement.



'MORON' **terrorist** takes selfie in front of ISIS headquarters,

Air Force bombs it 22 hours later



ALTHOUGH ISIS is known for using social media for recruitment purposes, U.S. Air Force intelligence has been using it to track down Islamic State militants, according to Gen. Hawk Carlisle, commander of Air Combat Command.

"These guys that are working down at in Florida, they're combing through social media. And they see some moron standing at this command and control capability for Da'Esh, ISIL. These guys go, 'ah we got an in,'" Carlisle said at a speech in Arlington, Virginia.

Twenty-two hours after seeing the post, U.S. warplanes went in for the kill.

"Long story short...three JDAMs take the entire building out," Carlisle said in the speech to the Air Force Association.

A JDAM is a kit attached to a conventional bomb that converts it into a "smart" weapon, according to the U.S. Navy. The kit, made by Boeing and put in the tail of the bombs, uses a global positioning system and internal navigation system to guide the bombs onto targets.

Using GPS coordinates, JDAM bombs have an error rate of less than 40 feet, the Navy says.

JDAM units can be placed on 2,000-, 1,000- and 500-pound bombs, which

can be carried by a variety of Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps aircraft. An Air Force B-2 bomber can deploy 80 JDAMs in a single pass, the Navy says.

"Incredible work when you think about it," Carlisle said of the operation. "And it was these incredible airmen out there doing those kind of things," Carlisle said.

The Islamic group has published approximately 1,700 pictures, videos and other publications all across social media and have gained at least 200,000 readers on Twitter, experts told Congress, according to the Air Force Times.

With more than 1,500 pictures, videos and publications scattered across social media, ISIS has managed to capture the attention of around 3,400 Westerners and at least 200 Americans to join their ranks, said Nicholas Rasmussen, director of the National Counterterrorism Center.

Social media has been a central focus for propagandists to recruit, share their experiences and show off their triumphs. However, U.S. intel, specifically airmen, have been avidly searching across social media to track down ISIS whereabouts to actively respond.



Paulo Dybala:

Juventus sign striker from Palermo for 32 million Euros

SERIE A champions Juventus have signed Argentine striker Paulo Dybala from Palermo for £23.4m (32 million Euros)

The 21-year-old will join the Italian double winners on a five-year contract.

Dybala has scored 13 goals this season and following his final home game - a defeat by Fiorentina - was thrown into the air by team-mates.

«Juventus are the side who wanted me the most» Dybala told Italian TV. «They made a real effort to sign me and this is why I made my decision.» Dybala joined Palermo in August 2012 from Argentine club Instituto for a reported fee of 12m euros. Juventus say the deal could rise to 40m euros with add-ons.

Speaking before the deal was announced, Dybala added: «It will be impossible for me to forget everything I've experienced in three years at Palermo. «I was happy from the very first day. I know that to play for Juve, I have to do much more and I'm sure I can improve a great deal.»

Ireland:

FIFA paid millions to avoid legal action over World Cup playoff



THE head of Ireland's Football Association says FIFA gave it a confidential payout to avoid legal action after Ireland's controversial loss to France in a 2009 World Cup playoff. Speaking on RTÉ Radio, Football Association of Ireland chief executive John Delaney said the payment related to a handball by Thierry Henry, which came in the final minutes of the match and cost Ireland a place in the 2010 World Cup. "We felt we had a legal case against FIFA because of how the World Cup play-off hadn't worked out for us with the Henry handball," Delaney said.

He said it was a "very good" and "very legitimate agreement" for the association, and he was bound by a confidentiality agreement not to reveal the amount. The payout was \$5 million

(4.4 million euros).

"It was a payment to the association to not proceed with a legal case," Delaney said. In a statement, FIFA acknowledged paying the Irish Football Association but said the money was a loan for a stadium construction.

"The terms agreed between FIFA and the FAI were that the loan would be reimbursed if Ireland qualified for the 2014 FIFA World Cup. Ireland did not so qualify," FIFA's statement read.

"Because of this, and in view of the FAI's financial situation, FIFA decided to write off the loan as per 31 December 2014."

A tumultuous few days

Right now, FIFA is the subject of two separate investigations: one in the

U.S. and another in Switzerland. And each day has brought a new twist in a tangled financial tale woven by football's governing body.

Last week, U.S. prosecutors issued arrest warrants for 14 people, on charges ranging from money laundering to fraud and racketeering. They include FIFA officials who took bribes totaling more than \$150 million and in return provided "lucrative media and marketing rights" to soccer tournaments as kickbacks, prosecutors say.

A separate investigation by Swiss authorities is investigating the circumstances of the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bids, which went to Russia and Qatar, respectively.

The scandal has prompted speculation over whether Russia or Qatar could

lose the right to host their respective World Cups if wrongdoing is proved.

On Tuesday, Sepp Blatter -- the man at FIFA's helm -- announced he'd be stepping down, just four days after being elected president for a fifth term. On Wednesday, court records revealed that Chuck Blazer, a former FIFA executive committee member and a key player in the ongoing corruption investigation into international soccer's governing body, had admitted taking bribes and helped South Africa land the 2010 World Cup.

And on Thursday, former senior FIFA official Jack Warner -- who has been indicted in the U.S. investigation -- promised to reveal the secret dealings of the powerful organization, including those involving Blatter, its previously seemingly untouchable leader.